

IFW

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

Established in 1859

SUITE 401L - 1801 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006-1201

TELEPHONE (202) 419-7000

FACSIMILE (202) 419-7007

ILLINOIS OFFICE

SUITE 1600 - 120 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60603-3406

TELEPHONE (312) 577-7000

CALIFORNIA OFFICES

SUITE 250 - 9276 SCRANTON ROAD, SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

TELEPHONE (858) 552-1311

WARNER CENTER TOWERS, SUITE 780, 21800 OXNARD ST., WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367

TELEPHONE (818) 715-7025

COLORADO OFFICE

SUITE 213 - 1942 BROADWAY, BOULDER, COLORADO 80302

TELEPHONE (303) 402-6966

January 11, 2006

MORGAN L. FITCH, JR.
FRANCIS A. EVEN*
JULIUS TABIN*
JOHN F. FLANNERY
ROBERT B. JONES
JAMES J. SCHUMANN
JAMES J. HAMILL
TIMOTHY E. LEVSTIK
JOSEPH E. SHIPLEY
KENNETH H. SAMPLES
PHILIP T. PETTI
JOSEPH T. NABOR
STEVEN C. SCHROER
RICHARD A. KABA*
KARL R. FINK
MARK W. HETZLER
TIMOTHY P. MALONEY
JAMES P. KRUEGER
STEPHEN S. FAVAKEH
RICHARD E. WAWRZYNIAK
STEVEN G. PARMELEE
THOMAS F. LEBENS
BRUCE R. MANSFIELD
KENDREW H. COLTON*
G. PAUL EDGELL*
MICHAEL A. SANZO*
SCOTT J. MENGHINI
NORMAN N. KUNITZ*
RUDY KRATZ
RAMON R. HOCH*
JOHN D. BAUERSFELD*
GARY D. MANN

EDWARD E. CLAIR
JON A. BIRMINGHAM
JOHN E. LYHUS
STEVEN M. FREELAND
DONNA E. BECKER
BRIAN S. CLISE
MARTIN R. BADER
MARK A. BORSOS
TIMOTHY R. BAUMANN
JEFFREY A. CHELSTROM
NICHOLAS T. PETERS
KENNETH E. PLOCHINSKI
GRACE LAW O'BRIEN
CHRISTINE A. ABUEL
TARA M. REEDY

PATENT AGENTS

ERIC J. WHITESELL
LILIA I. SAFONOV
NADA J. ARDELEANU
JULIE A. HOPPER

OF COUNSEL

GEORGE W. SPELLMIRE, JR.
LISA M. SOMMER
GEORGE H. SPENCER, P.C.*

TECHNICAL ADVISOR

JOHN M. BRONK, Ph.D.

*ADMITTED TO D.C. BAR
D.C. PRACTICE OF ALL OTHERS
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Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, **MS Amendment**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Amendment and Response
Appl. No.: 10/091,342
Filed: March 6, 2002
Title: **Process for the Preparation of L-Amino
Acids with Amplification of the zwf Gene**
Inventor(s): Burke, *et al.*
Our Ref: 7601/80250

Dear Sir:

The following documents are being forwarded for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 with:
Attachment 1 - a copy of the 9/28/05 Decision on Petitions; and
Attachment 1 - a copy of U.S. application 09/531,267; and
2. Return postcard.

CALCULATION OF ADDITIONAL FEES

Applicant(s) have calculated additional fees as follows:

	No. After Amendment	No. Previously Paid for	No. Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims Fee	35	35=	0	\$ 50.00	0.00
Independent Claims Fee	4	8 =	0	\$ 200.00	0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Fee (Previously Paid)	0	0	0	\$ 360.00	0.00
Total Additional Claims Fee					0.00
TOTAL FEES DUE					0.00

As indicated above, Applicants do not believe that any fee is due for the filing of this response. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency with respect to this filing and any other fee required in connection with the present case, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 06-1135 under Order No. 7601/80250.

It is respectfully requested that the enclosed postcard be stamped with the date the enclosed documents are received by the PTO and that it be returned as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY



Michael A. Sanzo
Reg. No. 36,912
Attorney for Applicants

MAS:ct
Enclosures



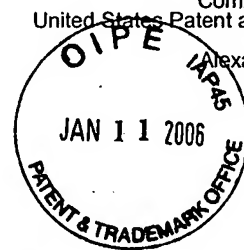
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FETF. D.C.

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MICHAEL A. SANZO
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY
SUITE 401L
1801 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 20006-1201

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Kevin Burke et al
Application No. 10/091,342
Filed: March 6, 2002
Attorney Docket No. 7601/80250

:
: DECISION ON PETITIONS
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) AND
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6)
:

This is a decision on the petition filed March 18, 2005, which is being treated as petitions under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6), to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §§120, and 119(e) for the benefit of the prior-filed applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petitions are **Granted**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 119(e) and 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(i) and 1.78(a)(5)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The instant nonprovisional application was filed after November 29, 2000, and the claim herein for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications is submitted after expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii). Therefore, this is a proper petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6).

FETF. D.C.

Sent To Docketing

9-29-05

Date

bmj

Initials

The instant nonprovisional application was pending at the time of filing of the reference to the prior-filed provisional application as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5)(ii). Additionally, intermediate nonprovisional Application No. 09/531,267 was filed within twelve months of the filing date of the prior-filed provisional application, Application No. 60/142,915, which was filed on July 9, 1999, for which priority is claimed.

The petition complies with the requirements for a grantable petition under 37 CFR §§1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) in that (1) a reference to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional applications has been included in an amendment to the first sentence of the specification following the title, as provided by 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(iii) and 1.78(a)(5)(iii); (2) the surcharge fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(t) has been submitted; and (3) the petition contains a proper statement of unintentional delay. Accordingly, having found that the instant petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 119(e) to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional applications satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6), the petition is granted.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed applications under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) should not be construed as meaning that the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the prior-filed applications. In order for the instant application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed applications, all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. §§120 and 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) and under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(4) and (a)(5) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed applications should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications noted thereon. Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed applications, accompanies this decision on petition.

Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3208. All other inquiries concerning either the examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This application is being referred to Technology Center Art Unit 1652 for appropriate action on the amendment submitted March 18, 2005, including consideration by the examiner of the claim under 35 U.S.C. § §120 and 365(c) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) for the benefit of the prior-filed applications, and for consideration of the claim under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5) for the benefit of the prior-filed provisional application.



Karen Creasy
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

ATTACHMENT Corrected Filing Receipt